

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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R 170642Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2143
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 4769

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: SECOND TRIAL OF WINNIE MANDELA; SILENT WHITE
CAPITULATES

REF: PRETORIA 3081 AND PREVIOUS

1. AUGUST 15 PRESS REPORTED THAT THE BANNED AND EXILED WINNIE MANDELA IS TO APPEAR IN THE BLOEMFONTEIN MAGISTRATE'S COURT ON AUGUST 16 TO FACE TWO CHARGES OF CONTRAVENING HER RESTRICTION ORDER AND ONE OF OBSTRUCTING THE POLICE. MANDELA'S ATTORNEY, ISMAIL AYOB INFORMED EMBOFF ON AUGUST 15 THAT ONE OF THE CHARGES IS THAT WINNIE MANDELA COMMUNICATED WITH HELEN JOSEPH ON SEPTEMBER 27, 1977.

2. JOSEPH, A LISTED PERSON BECAUSE OF HER PREVIOUS MEMBERSHIP IN THE CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS, WAS ONE OF THE "SILENT WHITES" WHO WENT TO JAIL AFTER REFUSING TO MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT HER ALLEGED VISIT TO MANDELA. JOSEPH RECENTLY INFORMED AN EMBOFF THAT ONE OF THE OTHER FOUR "SILENT WHITES" WHO WAS JAILED AFTER REFUSING TO COOPERATE WITH THE
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AUTHORITIES, BARBARA WAITE, HAS BACKED DOWN AND SECRETLY GIVEN STATEMENTS TO THE POLICE. ACCORDING TO JOSEPH, WAITE HAD BEEN COMPLETELY SHATTERED BY THE TWO MONTHS SHE SPENT INCARCERATED IN BLOEMFONTEIN.

3. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, JACKIE BOSMAN AND ILONA KLEINSCHMIDT, TWO OTHER "SILENT WHITES", WHO RECEIVED

SENTENCES OF FOUR AND THREE MONTHS RESPECTIVELY FOR
REFUSING TO GIVE STATEMENTS ABOUT MANDELA TO THE POLICE,
APPEARED IN COURT ON AUGUST 14. TO APPEAL THEIR CASE.
BOSMAN'S ATTORNEY RAISED A TECHNICAL POINT AND THE CASE
WAS POSTPONED FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH. THE TWO
WOMEN REMAIN FREE ON NOMINAL BAIL. THE SAG HAS EXEMPTED
JOSEPH FROM FURTHER PROSECUTION BECAUSE OF HER AGE (73).
JOSEPH DOES, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO RECEIVE DEATH THREATS
AND HAS BEEN SUBJECTED TO HARASSMENT FROM UNKNOWN PERSONS
INCLUDING A SHOTGUN BLAST THROUGH HER WINDOW ON AUGUST 16.
EDMONDSON

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